

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 10755 160923Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 SCS-06 ISO-00 CA-01 CPR-01 L-03 PM-05
NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 INR-10 HA-05 /066 W
-----110647 161035Z /14
P 160910Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1722
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OTRA, CSCE, SOPN, UR, CZ
SUBJECT: U.S. NEWSMAN REFUSED VISA FOR CZECHOSLOVAKIA

1. BALTIMORE SUN MOSCOW CORRESPONDENT HAL PIPER INFORMED US MAY 15 THAT CZECHOSLOVAK EMBASSY HERE HAS, ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM PRAGUE, REFUSED TO ISSUE HIM A VISA TO TRAVEL TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA.
2. PIPER HAD ORIGINALLY APPLIED TO TRAVEL IN MAY BUT WAS FORCED TO CHANGE HIS PLANS WHEN HE WAS LAID UP WITH REOCCURANCE OF BACK PROBLEM. WHEN HE CALLED CSSR EMBASSY LATE IN WEEK OF MAY 8 TO ASK THEM TO CHANGE DATES ON HIS APPLICATION TO WEEK OF JUNE 12, PIPER WAS TOLD THE CHANGE WAS "ACADEMIC" BECAUSE EMBASSY HAD RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS FROM PRAGUE TO REFUSE VISA IN ANY CASE. EMBASSY PROFESSED NOT TO KNOW REASON FOR DECISION.
3. FYI PIPER TELLS US HE IS CONTEMPLATING WRITING TO CZECHOSLOVAK FOREIGN MINISTRY TO INQUIRE ABOUT NON-RESIDENT ACCREDITATION, WHICH IF GRANTED WOULD PRESUMABLY MAKE IT EASIER TO OBTAIN VISA IN FUTURE. HE WILL SEND US A COPY OF ANY COMMUNICATION HE DIRECTS TO PRAGUE.

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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 10755 160923Z

4. ACTION: DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO CONSIDER SOME FORM OF RECIPROCAL ACTION AGAINST AN APPROPRIATE CZECHOSLOVAK JOURNALIST, ALTHOUGH WE RECOGNIZE THAT IT WILL BE DIFFICULT IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE TO DUPLICATE SITUATION UNDER WHICH PIPER VISA WAS REFUSED. WE WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION AMEMBASSY PRAGUE CAN OBTAIN AS TO WHY PIPER WAS GIVEN THUMBS DOWN. TOON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VISAS, TRAVEL CONTROLS, JOURNALISTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780554/aaaabtwb.tel
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Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Page Count: 2
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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TAGS: OTRA, SOPN, UR, CZ, CSCE, (PIPER, HAL)
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Review Markings:
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